

(March 4th, 2021)

Greetings to members of the Judiciary Committee,

I oppose **HB6355** for the following reasons:

- 1) The language of the bill seems to further dismantle any objectivity whatsoever for validating one person's claims against another. If passed, this language will surely lead to the unchecked seizure of property and legal hassles that will certainly include drawn out attorney's fees and complicated efforts by individuals to regain their property once a risk warrant is vacated. There is a lengthy history of problems already happening under the current statute and broadening who can arbitrarily file a complaint will make these types of problems worse for people.
- 2) There is no recourse for an individual that may be the target of someone who may become a victim of a dispute where personal spite may factor in. If someone is simply vindictive, then gun owners will surely become targeted victims.

In Connecticut every year, control bills get introduced that have the express intent to diminish the fundamental rights of gun owners. There are already laws in place that remove firearms from individuals who legitimately pose a credible threat to others. There must be some protections in place that maintain the rights of the people. This is why this bill should not pass this committee.

A personal note:

'AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS IN THE HOME AND FIREARM SAFETY PROGRAMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS' was enacted in 2019 with the understanding that firearms safety curriculum would be made available to local boards of Education and school districts. As of this date, that curriculum has been created but still not yet adopted. This is a crucial component of the bill that is supposed to provide safety guidelines to children in the event they encounter unsecured firearms. This is something that I feel this committee should be made aware of and work on getting fixed.

A 2nd personal note:

'AN ACT CONCERNING THE STORAGE OF A PISTOL OR REVOLVER IN A MOTOR VEHICLE' was also enacted in 2019. There was an attempt to amend the bill on the house floor. There would have been latitude for a judge to increase penalties for those who steal a firearm. This might have been a positive deterrent to prevent violent crime.

Scott Wilson

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